

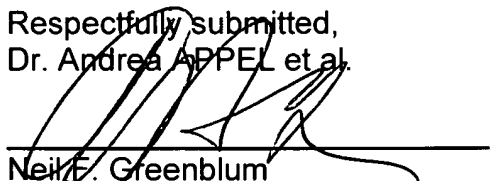
**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing amendment is requested prior to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing amendment does not add new matter to the present application.

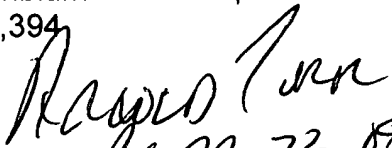
Applicants note that the instant amendment has been prepared to place the application more in conformance with idiomatic English and standard U.S. practice. In particular, claims 1-9 have been amended and claims 10-20 have been added. Applicants submit that the instant amendment has not been made for any reasons related to patentability such that no estoppel should be deemed to attach.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Andrea APPEL et al.

  
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Neil F. Greenblum  
Reg. No. 28,394

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

  
Reg No 33,889